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# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية غير منحازة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

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THE BRITISH AIRWAYS THEATRE  
AT THE AMMAN PLAZA HOTEL  
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Bridgit Forsyth  
in "You must be the husband"  
12th., 13th. and 14th. Dec. 1992  
at the Grand BallRoom  
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HOTELS

Page 17 Number 5174

AMMAN SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1992, JUMADA AL THANI 8, 1413

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia .50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## 11 delegations to attend next round of bilaterals

MERIT (AP) — Foreign ministers of the Arab League met in Amman today to discuss the next round of bilateral talks. The meeting was held at the Al Bustan hotel in the pine woods of the mountain resort town of Beit Meri east of Beirut.

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## ush orders U.S.-led force Somalia after U.N. approval

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush Friday ordered a substantial American force to Somalia to protect relief workers and to feed a starving population.

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## omalia — deadly Arab failure

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

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## King: Arab summit could be held soon

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## Water and arms equally important as peace in Mideast — Sharif Zeid

VALLETTA (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker said Friday the absence of security and justice in the Middle East was not only reflected in the acquisition of territory by force or war or denying the Palestinian people their legitimate political and national rights or the acquisition by one party of nuclear weapons, but also in other vital issues such as water, one of the most dangerous problems facing the region.

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Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker

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## Jordan voices hope for settlement based on 242

NEW YORK (Petra) — Jordan's U.N. Ambassador Adnan Abu Odeh said Friday the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict which is listed on the U.N. agenda as the Middle East problem remains unresolved despite the issuance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 more than 25 years ago.

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## Co-sponsors see progress in review of multilateral talks

LONDON (R) — The United States and Russia said Friday a two-day session of Middle East talks on regional issues ended with consensus in some areas and a determination by all sides to find solutions to problems.

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## Rejection of two party registration applications draws mixed reaction

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Outrage and welcome were among the feelings that political activists and supporters of democracy expressed this weekend after the Ministry of Interior turned down registration applications by two political groupings in the Kingdom.

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## 8 Egyptian militants sentenced to death

CAIRO (R) — A military court has sentenced eight Muslim militants to death in Egypt's strongest response so far to a violent campaign by fundamentalists to turn the country into an Islamic state.

Seven of the eight were sentenced in absentia. All were convicted of plotting to overthrow the government and officials said they were among 26 members of the Jihad (holy struggle) group behind the 1981 assassination of President Anwar Sadat.

Sherif Hassan Ahmad, 25, greeted his death sentence with cries of "Thank God, thank God, the time of our fate has come at the hands of those people (government officials)."

Court officials said 31 other militants were jailed, several for life.

Egyptian security officials, independent academics and militant leaders said that one main command was behind most of the current violent attempts to set up an Islamic state.

The trials were the first major

## Algerians brace for curfew

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria's two-month amnesty for "terrorists" expired Friday and the army-backed government prepared to clamp an overnight curfew on the capital and six surrounding provinces.

The 10.30 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew, stepping up the government's war on Muslim extremists, goes into effect Saturday.

Foreign military attaches said troops had moved into barracks in the capital, apparently ready to impose the curfew.

The city of two million people and surrounding regions have been the scene of most of the ambushes in which suspected fundamentalist gunmen have killed some 170 members of the security forces since February.

Algeria is already under a state of emergency and several people have been killed at official road blocks for disobeying or apparently not noticing orders by the security forces to halt.

Radios repeatedly broadcast Friday "hotline" telephone numbers for citizens to contact security forces in the event of emergencies during curfew hours.

The Interior Ministry said anyone without a phone should approach the nearest contact post. "In this case, it is recommended they take extreme caution and scrupulous respect for warnings from the security forces," the ministry said.

The state airline Air Algérie rescheduled international flights and cancelled some internal flights to prevent travellers being forced to spend the night at the airport.

Algerians packed into restaurants Thursday night to make the most of the last leisurely dinners before the curfew forces them to scuttle home early. Most restaurants were closed on Friday.

## Excerpts from U.N. text on Somalia

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Following are excerpts from a Security Council text authorising a U.S.-led military operation in Somalia. The vote was unanimous 15-0.

The Security Council... STRONGLY condemns all violations of international humanitarian law occurring in Somalia, including in particular the deliberate impeding of the delivery of food and medical supplies essential for the survival of the civilian population, and affirms that those who commit or order the commission of such acts will be held individually responsible of such acts.

DECIDES that the operations and the further deployment of the 3,500 personnel of the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) should proceed at the discretion of the secretary-general in the light of his assessment of conditions on the ground and requests him to keep the council informed and to make such recommendations as may be appropriate for the fulfilment of its mandate where conditions permit.

ENDORSES the recommendations by the secretary-general in his letter (S/24868) that action under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations should be taken in order to establish a secure environment for humanitarian relief operations in Somalia as soon as possible.

WELCOMES the offer by a member state described in the secretary-general's letter to the council of Nov. 29 aimed at establishing such a secure environment.

WELCOMES also offers by other member states to participate in the operation.

ACTING under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, authorities the secretary-general and member states cooperating to implement the offer referred to in paragraph 8 above to use all necessary means to establish as soon as possible a secure environment for humanitarian relief operations in Somalia.

CALLS upon all member states which are in a position to do so to provide military forces and to make additional contributions, in cash or in kind, in accordance

## Parties

(Continued from page 1)

The Ministry of Interior was right to refuse the registration of the parties," said Mr. Gammo.

"I hope that these parties will amend their charters so that they can become legal parties in the future," he said.

The head of the right-of-centre AJ Abd Pasha, Abdul Hadi Al Majali, said he trusted the judgement of the Ministry of Interior.

"As far as I can see the objections on legal grounds and thus are in accordance with the law," Mr. Majali told the Jordan Times.

"The final word is with the judiciary however," he added.

Several conservative politicians have said that they believe Jordanian groups which had political affiliations to parties outside the Kingdom prior to the introduction of democratic changes which started in 1989 should not be legalised.

The head of the leftist Jordan People's Democratic Party (JPDP) said that he believed Jordanian groups which had political affiliations to parties outside the Kingdom prior to the introduction of democratic changes which started in 1989 should not be legalised.

"I am really very surprised about the decision," said Tayseer Zibri, head of the JPDP. "If this decision sticks then the democratic process will take a beating."

"Maybe our party will be refused legalisation on similar grounds; we should know by the end of next week," he said when asked if he felt the legalisation of his party was in jeopardy.

"We want democracy to work and we want to take part in building Jordan. I hope we won't be denied this chance. It would be undemocratic," said Mr. Zibri, who was a member of the 60-member commission which drew up the National Charter.

Both Mr. Najdawi and Dr. Zayyadin are expected to appeal the ministry decision at the Higher Court of Justice.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Rabin: King Hassan contributed to p

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said that King Hassan II of Morocco had contributed to an atmosphere of Arab-Israeli peace by releasing the remains of 22 Jewish bodies who were killed in Israel in a clandestine immigration operation. The shipwrecked vessel was transporting 43 immigrants, but the other bodies were never found. Israeli immigrants for years to win the release of the remains, but Moroccan Jewish cemetery. Efforts were repeatedly made the last minute, radio reports said. Mr. Rabin told Israel radio Thursday that the Moroccan monarch decided two ago to release the bodies. "I would like to express an appreciation and my heartfelt thanks to the king of Morocco out of humanitarian reasons and out of a desire to go to an atmosphere that will bring peace closer between the World and us," Mr. Rabin told the radio. "I think such act build an atmosphere that gives better chances to peace," added. Israel and Morocco do not have diplomatic relations. The Moroccan monarch has mediated between Israel and Arab states in the past. Several Israeli leaders, including Rabin, have visited Morocco.

### Israel sees more Palestinian violence

TEL AVIV (R) — Palestinians killed more Israeli soldiers West Bank and Gaza Strip in 1992 than in any of the previous years of revolt against Israeli rule, the army said Friday. Issued by the military spokesman's office ahead of an anniversary of the uprising on Dec. 9 said Palestinian occupied territories have sharply stepped up the use of gun Israel this year. The figures do not include incidents occurred in Israel or in Arab East Jerusalem. The army's soldiers died by Dec. 1, 1992 — twice the number killed. Only one soldier died in 1991. It said 11 Jews, mostly settlers in the occupied territories, have died in 1992, up from six. According to a Reuters tally, a total of 963 Palestinians killed by Israelis, including civilians, during the revolt.

### Israel secret police official dismiss

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli secret police official was relieved of his post following a journalist's complaint he had been sexually harassed. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office said Thursday, spokeswoman confirmed an Israel Television report that a police director's bureau chief, whose identity is a state would be replaced soon. The action was taken after an action of a complaint by Israel Radio military reporter Menashe that he harassed her by telephone. The harasser not described. The activities of the secret police, the security services more commonly known as the Shin, shrouded in secrecy. The service answers to the prime minister's office.

### Ex-president of Syria buried in home

HOMS (AP) — Former President Hafez Assad, who was overthrown by Hafez Al Assad in 1970, was buried Thursday in a funeral. He died at a Paris hospital of cancer esophagus on Thursday and his body was flown to his home Homs, 180 kilometres north of Damascus. He was 63. M led the hardline wing of the ruling Baath Party that seized a 1966 coup. He was toppled by Mr. Assad on Nov. 1 placed under house arrest and later transferred to the Mezz in Damascus. In late April this year, Mr. Assad was released after a heart attack and he was admitted to Tishrin hospital in Damascus. When his conditions worsened, allowed to travel to Paris on Nov. 22.

### Growth removed from Shamir was mail

TEL AVIV (AP) — A growth removed from former Minister Yitzhak Shamir's intestines was cancerous, Mr. surgeon confirmed Friday. Mr. Shamir, 77, was hospitalized for weakness. Doctors later discovered bleeding digestive tract and performed intestinal surgery Thursday. The growth was malignant, Mr. Shamir's surgeon, Dr. Yaacov told the Associated Press Friday. Dr. Yaacov said the cancer spread to the surrounding tissue. The operation was successful. Mr. Shamir is to be released from the hospital within several days, the surgeon said. Mr. Shamir, leader of the right-wing party, served as Israel's prime minister until June when he bid for reelection. After the defeat, he announced retirement politics effective March 1993, kicking off a vigorous race as Likud legislators for the leadership.

### Iranian prince condemns Rushdie's

PARIS (R) — A member of Iran's deposed royal family Thursday the death sentence against Salman Rushdie distortion of Islam and urged Muslims everywhere to voice opposition to it. In an open letter Prince Patrick Ali Pahlavi criticised the fundamentalist leaders who overthrew his father Shah in 1979, and launched a campaign to rally moderate Muslims. "Those who have condemned Salman Rushdie clearly falsified the word of the Koran and made Islam of the eyes of the whole world," the letter said. Iran's late leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini pronounced a "fatwa" religious decree, against Mr. Rushdie nearly four years following the publication of his novel "The Satanic Verses," many Muslims deemed to be blasphemous. Mr. Rushdie is in hiding for fear of his life ever since, unable to move the authorities to clemency despite Ayatollah Khomeini's 1989 and his own subsequent public embrace of Islam. "I who has lived in exile in Paris since 1981, said the Koran stated that blasphemy should be punished according to the principle of an eye for an eye. 'The only corresponding punishment for the English writer's profanities could be a book of stupidity of what he says or, at worst, a boycott of his Muslims,' the letter said. "But in any case never a death sentence," Rushdie has killed nobody himself," Pahlavi said. "Muslims everywhere to voice their opposition to the leadership's stance by writing to him, saying this would be step towards peace, democracy and freedom from all unjust acts."

## Ten Iraqis sentenced to die for car theft and murder

BAGHDAD (R) — A court in Baghdad has sentenced 10 Iraqis to death for car theft and in some cases murder, an Iraqi newspaper said Friday.

The ruling Baath Party's newspaper Al Thawra said the court convicted four of them Thursday of stealing six cars, fitting them with false licence plates and taking them out of the country through the Kurdish-controlled north of Iraq.

Two others stole cars and sold them to a man from Mosul who smuggled them to the north. He was also among those sentenced.

Two more were convicted of stealing a car, killing the owner and stealing his money.


The last two were found guilty of killing the owner of a car, taking 250 dinars (\$775 at the official rate, \$10 on the black market) from him and throwing his body in a drainage canal.

Cars have vastly increased in value since the imposition of United Nations sanctions after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990. Spare parts are difficult to obtain and very expensive.

The judge, interviewed by Al Thawra, said the 10 men were not motivated by economic hardship. He attributed their deeds to "the potent, vicious spirit inside the criminals."

Crime has risen sharply since the Gulf war, bringing tougher penalties and an increase in coverage in the press, which rarely reported crime before.

### A JOB OPPORTUNITY IN MARKETING



**BETA INDUSTRIES** invites applicants for a vacancy in marketing. The applicant should be:

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- Experience in foreign markets.
- Car with valid driving licence.

Candidates who feel they meet the above mentioned qualifications should call tel. 778 652 to arrange an appointment for completion of an application form. Short-listed applicants will subsequently be called for an interview.

## Somalia

(Continued from page 1)

presence in any Somali mediation and national reconciliation.

"They can participate in any effort as an observer, not as a player," said Lateef Abdul Qadir, a veteran Somali politician and vice-president of the interim government, as Ali Mahdi nodded in agreement.

"The same applies to the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the Organisation of African Unity," added Mr. Abdul Qadir, believed to be the main political brains of the Ali Mahdi group.

"Any effort for reconciliation on Somalia has to be under the auspices of the United Nations."

In the meantime, Somali people are also asking why the Arab World — whom they see as partly to be blamed for the 21 years of suffering under the Siad Barre regime — is not extending any meaningful help.

"The Arabs from the Gulf have the money to go to Monte Carlo and Las Vegas to gamble and womanise," said Fouad Hussein, a former Mogadishu airport official. "Are they oblivious to the fact that the money one of them spends for one day of debauchery could feed an entire Somali family for one year?"

"It was their money that propped up Siad Barre and armed his murderers for 21 years," said Hussein. "Don't they have any feeling of guilt?"

"The Somali nation will never forgive them."

Many Arab diplomats based in Nairobi, Kenya, make it a point to fly to "secure" Somali towns around U.N. relief efforts to establish contacts with the new leadership emerging in post-Siad Barre Somalia. Although they emphasise in their talks with the local chiefs that their brief visits are "purely humanitarian," there is little doubt that most of them are testing the new grounds in the troubled country.

A group of ambassadors and senior diplomats of Sudan, Djibouti, Eritrea, Mauritania and Yemen were visited Bardera, a town near the Somali-Kenya border now under the control of forces loyal to Siad Barre, when this reporter was also there last week.

In a meeting with the local commander, Colonel Barre Aden Shabel, the diplomats were overheard stressing that they were only trying to learn about "the situation on the ground" and that their visit "was purely aimed at exploring possibilities of relief."

They were told in blunt terms by Col. Barre that "any bet on Aided is a lost bet." But the argument in itself did not appear to be very convincing; nor did the diplomats, who risked their lives in visiting Bardera, appear convinced.

The only diplomatic mission that remains open despite the violence and uncertainty in Mogadishu is the Egyptian embassy, from where the ambassador has been trying his hand in mediation. If there is any contact between the Arab League and the leaders in Mogadishu, it is conducted through the ambassador.

Although the Somalis lay claim to be Arabs, many of them do not speak Arabic but they understand the language. Many Arabic words pop up in the variation of Swahili heard in the streets of Mogadishu.

But it was a different language that greeted a team of Arab doctors, most of them Egyptians, who went to Somalia a few months ago offering their voluntary services to heal the sick. As it turned out, they offered more problems for the U.N. than they could help solve.

## Parties

"We had to offer them security and protection," said an official from the U.N. Department of Humanitarian Affairs, which handled the Arab team. "If that was not enough, then we had to bribe local hospital officials to let the doctors work."

Arab diplomats argue that in view of the anarchy that prevails in the country, it is illogical for the Somalis to expect any massive Arab assistance.

"Half the time we have no assurance that relief supplies would reach those who actually deserve it," said a Gulf Arab diplomat based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. "We have every sympathy for the Somali people, but we don't want to send in supplies to be plundered and sold in the black market to fatten the merchants or for the warlords to acquire more weapons."

"Furthermore, how can anyone be assured that relief supplies are not used to strengthen one warring faction at the expense of another," said the diplomat.

"Donors could not afford to be seen as taking sides in the Somali conflict. They could not afford to acquire the eternal hostility of Somalis locked in blood feuds."

Although not without its strong points, the argument loses its weight when seen against the backdrop of the feeble coordination of Arab action in Somalia. And Somali hostility towards Arabs could already be a fact on the ground.

"The Arabs have never taken the lead in any emergency situation anywhere in the world," asserted Mr. Dohel. "They wait for the rest of the world to move in first. But this time no there could be no strong Arab argument at all."

"We have already lost over half a million people," he said. "Can Arab apologies and excuses bring back those lives?"

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**PROGRAMME TWO**  
18:00 ..... Les Aventures du Bosco.  
18:30 ..... Envoyé Spécial  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Penetre sur  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... America's Funniest Home Videos  
21:00 ..... Perspectives  
21:30 ..... Varieties  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:30 ..... Feature film: "Zinab"

**PRAYER TIMES**  
04:54 ..... Fajr  
06:16 ..... (Summer) Duha  
11:26 ..... Dhuhr  
14:12 ..... Asr  
16:36 ..... Maghreb  
17:28 ..... Isha

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**WEATHER**  
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.  
It will be relatively cold and partly cloudy and there will be a chance for scattered showers of rain. Winds will be westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.  
Min./Max. temp. 6/12  
Amman 11/12  
Deserts 4/14  
Jordan Valley 12/19  
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 10, Aqaba 21, Humidity readings: Amman 98 per cent, Aqaba 45 per cent.

# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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University Hospital 843845  
Al-Musader Hospital 667279  
The Islamic, Abadi 666171/77  
Al-Ahli, Abadi 664164/66  
Italian, Al-Mudarra 771013  
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**ARRIVALS**  
**Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)**  
06:30 ..... Jakarta, Singapore (RJ)

06:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
08:30 ..... New Delhi (RJ)  
09:40 ..... Karachi, Dubai (RJ)  
10:45 ..... Colombo (RJ)  
11:15 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
12:15 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
14:15 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
17:00 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
17:45 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
17:55 ..... London (RJ)  
18:25 ..... Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Bangkok (RJ)  
23:00 ..... Paris (RJ)  
23:00 ..... London, Aqaba (RJ)  
01:00 ..... Madrid (RJ)  
**Other Flights (Terminal 2)**  
11:30 ..... Sanaa (TV)  
17:55 ..... Paris, Damascus (AF)  
19:25 ..... Rome, Beirut (AZ)  
**DEPARTURES**  
**Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)**  
06:30 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Aqaba, London (RJ)  
08:30 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
09:45 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
10:45 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
11:15 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Cairo, Madrid (RJ)  
12:45 ..... Geneva, Brussels (RJ)  
12:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
12:10 ..... London (RJ)  
**MARKET PRICES**  
Upplower price in B.  
Apple .....  
Banana .....  
Beetroot (Mekassar) .....  
Beans .....  
Cabbage .....  
Carrot .....  
Cauliflower .....  
Cucumbers (large) .....  
Cucumbers (small) .....  
Eggplant .....  
Garlic .....  
Grapefruit .....  
Lemon .....  
Marrow (large) .....  
Marrow (small) .....  
Onion (dry) .....  
Onion (green) .....  
Orange .....  
Pepper (hot) .....  
Pepper (sweet) .....  
Potato .....  
Tomato .....  
Spinach .....  
Mint .....  
Green Olive .....



# Home News

## Bataineh leaves for conference on nutrition in Rome

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in an international conference on nutrition in Rome by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO).

Minister Aref Bataineh, who left Amman for the Italian capital Thursday for the conference, said that, would involve means of involving governments and non-governmental organizations in the process of using world food resources.

During the week long meeting, he said that topics to be discussed included improving the availability of food for families in the world, protecting the income of the consumer in matters of food and nutrition, and the quality of drugs used to third world needy, and providing more care

## Officials hail outcome of Kabarti's Beirut visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian political circles have voiced satisfaction with the outcome of talks Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabarti recently held with Lebanese officials on Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

Informal sources said that during his two-week visit to Beirut last month, Mr. Kabarti received "assurances and clarifications" on the Lebanese policy of rejecting the settlement of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

The London-based Al Hayat newspaper Friday quoted Mr. Kabarti as saying that he received official Lebanese assurances that the policy of rejecting Palestinian settlement in Lebanon does in no way mean deporting foreign nationals living in Lebanon.

Mr. Kabarti, who held talks with Lebanese President Elias Hrawi, Lebanese Premier Rafiq Hariri and Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament Nabih Berri, added that the Lebanese policy towards Palestinians is only aimed at controlling the labour market and ensuring that residence conditions and provisions are observed and respected.

The policy also does not allow for Palestinians to obtain Lebanese nationality in order to preserve the Palestinian national identity, Mr. Kabarti told Al Hayat.

Mr. Kabarti, also held talks with his Lebanese counterpart Abdullah Al Amin on labour, economic and commercial issues with a view to enhancing relations in these fields and forging closer cooperation and coordination between Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

Upon his return to Amman late last week, Mr. Kabarti said a joint Jordanian-Lebanese company will be formed to look into labour and residence related issues. He added that the Lebanese prime minister has ordered the Jordanian embassy in Beirut, evacuated from refugees who moved into it during Lebanon's civil war and be handed over immediately to the Jordanian embassy staff.

The Jordanian Charge d'affaires in Beirut Atef Halasa, who was appointed two years ago, has been unable to take control of the embassy because it has been occupied.

## Construction boom to end, claim developers

AMMAN (R) — Jordan's building boom fueled by returns from Kuwait is expected to end next year with a 30 per cent drop in new construction, according to developers and contractors.

"The country's private construction boom after the Gulf war has reached its peak," said Husni Abu Gheida, head of Jordan's Engineer's Association which approves private construction permits.

He predicted that construction next year would decline by about 30 per cent from this year's record six million square metres which has changed the face of Amman with tens of thousands of new luxury homes.

"We used to get around 120 construction licences daily and it's halved now to about 50 to 60," Mr. Abu Gheida said.

In 1991, with a flood of citizens returning during the Gulf Crisis, builders put up 4.3 million square metres of private construction, more than double the annual average before Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Government figures show construction as the most important factor in record 11 per cent real growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for 1992.

Mr. Abu Gheida said an estimated 70 per cent of construction since the end of the Gulf war last year was private home building, most of it in relatively affluent west Amman.

"The investment boom was directed towards expensive property units and it has resulted in an imbalance... it didn't solve the problems of low-income people," property developer Mohammad Al-Kilani said last week.

Mr. Kilani said he was now concentrating on property aimed at the middle class with smaller flats priced at about JD 25,000 to JD 35,000 compared to about

JD 45,000 to JD 60,000 for up-market housing.

Real estate prices have risen an average 60 per cent in some affluent neighbourhoods while rents have risen by at least 40 per cent since the Gulf crisis, property developers said.

The boom was fueled by an estimated 300,000 expatriates who returned home with decades of savings from the Gulf and others hoping to cash in on the boom.

Banking estimates put total funds poured into the property market since April 1991 at about 1.2 billion Jordanian Dinars.

## Milk prices to rise

AMMAN (J.T.) — Government subsidy on basic commodities will drop from JD 48 million in 1992 to JD 45 million in the coming year which means an increase in certain food supplies, according to government sources.

The subsidy allocations which are provided for in the 1993 draft fiscal budget due in Parliament in the coming session have been cut from last year in accordance with a government plan introduced last year to gradually reduce government subsidies.

## 'Women's role in society should be enhanced'

By Masa Alul  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "The Woman's Role in Jordanian Society" was the subject of a lecture held at the Royal Cultural Centre by Dr. Zeid Hamza on Wednesday. Dr. Hamza, the Secretary General of the Party of Progress and Justice and an ex-Minister of Health, stressed that woman's role in society should be enhanced by participating in the political parties and women should be more active in society.



Jordanian women: Exercising their right to vote

Dr. Hamza said that things have been changing on a wide scale during the past five decades but still, social conditions especially regarding man's relation to woman, have not gained ground. There still exist the old discriminations against the perceived freedoms, he said.

These freedoms will become credible only when men begin to understand the individuality of women and their natural right of equality. This involves their right to work which will enable women to end their economic dependency on men.

Although women have been given access to political rights, such as voting and running for public office, they have not yet taken full advantage of these rights, Dr. Hamza argued. The Constitution was changed to involve both men and women as equal before the law. He said that the National Charter also states that Jordan abides by the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and all international agreements in that regard. The Charter gives

women constitutional rights to equality, education and work so that they may play an active role in society. On the other hand, some men still regard the women's rights should revolve around housekeeping duties only, the Doctor argued.

In the lecture, Dr. Hamza referred to historical records which state that women were worshipped as gods by native Mexicans while the Romans considered them as slaves. Islam gave women their rights but unfortunately it was not practiced as should be, he said.

"Woman's right to vote did not give her access to Parliament and recently in the elections, those who are most far from campaigning for women's rights in its new concept got the majority of the women's votes."

"We should restructure the base of our society in a way that permits equal rights to women and men and we should start with the family itself which in its original meaning, refers to what a man owns in the form of slaves, women and animals. Schools and methods of teaching should be changed to eliminate all what hinders the woman from being an active member in the society gradually," concluded Dr. Hamza.

## Japan, a model for Jordan's education system?

By Sa'eda Kilani  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — As reform plans through the educational system in Jordan, experts agree outstanding development by other countries in the world may serve as a useful model to Jordan. One such model is Japan, according to Dr. Hara, a prominent education professor.

Education played a key role in Japan's emergence as an industrial nation during the late 19th century," said Dr. Hara in a lecture on the Japanese education system at University of Jordan on Wednesday. "In recent years, education is considered as a major factor in the development of a country, as it is one of the world's technologically advanced countries," he said.

In his lecture, Dr. Hara who is author of 'Changes in Education Postwar Japan' said that the Japanese educational system had been heavily affected by World War II which had been done to get rid of its feet again.

Only after the war show the for a decentralisation and in the educational system, a new educational law gave attention to the importance of encouraging

Japanese students to respect their country and its cultural heritage, the doctor said. Religious studies, however, are excluded from the public sector.

"Education shall aim at the full development of personality, striving for the rearing of the people, sound in mind and body, who shall love truth and justice, esteem individual value, respect labour and have a deep sense of responsibility and be imbued with an independent spirit," reads the Japanese Educational Law of 1947.

Equal access to education was also highlighted putting further emphasis on the right of women to education. The percentage of girls going to school in the pre-war era was 15% compared to 40% boys as well and women were barred from entrance to government higher schools and universities.

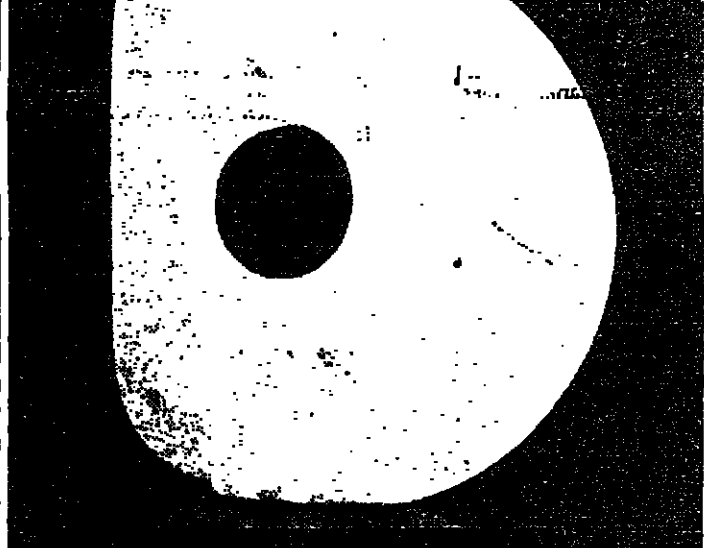
Major changes in the educational system were concentrated in overall transformation in the infrastructure of the Ministry of Education itself, continued Dr. Hara. "The power of the ministry of education was greatly weakened, losing direct control on national schools and faculties," he said. "A single track education system replaced the pre-war multi-track system; new subjects were introduced into the

curriculum and more emphasis was given to creative skills such as music and art," he said.

A change in the mentality of the Japanese people towards education followed and was reflected by the percentage of enrollment of students which reached 100 per cent in primary education and 95 per cent in secondary schools reflecting the considerable attention and importance parents give to education in comparison with the case during the pre-war era, where parents preferred the participation of the child in contributing financial aid to the family instead of going to school.

Another improvement in the education system is the special care given to the teacher. "Special attention concerning salary and position is given to the teacher," Dr. Hara stressed. "There can never be any improvement in the educational system without giving adequate training and encouragement to the teacher himself."

"Despite the fact that the Japanese educational system has undergone drastic changes and developments in all sections, there are still many deficiencies and many problems that exist," Dr. Hara said. "However, specialists in the field keep an eye on any measure possible to be adopted that would help the betterment of the educational system."



TIMELESS MARBLE: One of the pieces on display at Mousa Soudi's sculpture exhibition to be inaugurated Sunday by Mrs. Nawaz Sharif at Al Balqa's Art Gallery in Al Fuhels. The exhibition will be open to the public until Dec. 18, 1992.

## Prince Hassan leaves for the Netherlands and Austria

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan today left for the Netherlands and Austria on a working visit to both countries. Prince Hassan will meet in Vienna the Austrian President and senior Austrian officials. The Crown Prince was off at the airport by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Zaid, Chief Chamberlain Prince Raad Ben Zeid, Private Chamberlain and a number of senior officials.

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### Jordanian officials

**Red medals**  
AMMAN (Petra) — Sudanese President General Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir Friday conferred on Abdullah Kanaan, deputy of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's and Abdul Salam Al-Jadi, secretary general of Hashemite Jordanian Organisation, Sudan's Order of the Republic of the 1st Order in appreciation of role in coordinating Jordanian support to Sudan, over the years, to help it overcome some of its social and economic problems.

### Triot to host

**Charitable bazaar**  
AMMAN (Petra) — Under patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of Physically Handicapped will hold a charitable bazaar at Hotel on 15 Dec. The bazaar, which will be held in conjunction with other charitable societies and a number of associations in Amman, will include handicrafts.

## WHAT'S ON

Exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artist Turky Abdul Amir at the Alia Art Gallery.

The third Al Amal bazaar at the International Jerusalem Hotel, open from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m.

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### OIC needs to demonstrate strength

THE EXTRAORDINARY meeting of the foreign ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) in Jeddah Wednesday came several months too late following the onslaught of Serbian forces against Muslim Bosnians and the commitment of untold number of atrocities and crimes against humanity. This overdue intervention on the level of the OIC belies the seriousness of the Islamic World to act effectively against Serbia's barbaric actions against their former fellow peoples, the Bosnians and Croats.

The Republic of Serbia and Montenegro would not have dared go to the extent that it did in its "ethnic cleansing" operations in former Yugoslavia had the OIC acted sooner and more effectively. Having waited this long to call for a United Nations military intervention, the Serbian forces must have interpreted this rhetorical stance of the Islamic countries in the same manner it has treated the international response, i.e., with disdain and contempt.

The OIC foreign ministers' call for lifting the ban on the import of military supplies by Bosnia appeared to be destined to the same fate in view of the West's immediate reaction ruling such a move out as completely contrary to the existing U.N. Security Council resolution imposing an embargo on all of the former Yugoslavia. Where were the Islamic representatives when that binding decision was adopted in the first place? Why wasn't there any real and serious Islamic effort to distinguish between Bosnia's quest for weapons to defend itself from Serbia's search for arms to commit its acts of aggression against Croatia and Bosnia?

The case for exempting countries trying to defend themselves from the embargo against former Yugoslavia could have been also persuasive and justifiable at the outset of the Serbian military actions against their neighbours. U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton is on record as favouring a distinction between Bosnia and Croatia on the one hand and Serbia on the other as far as applying a military embargo against former Yugoslavia is concerned. This fact can be used to strengthen the hands of those who would like to see Bosnia and Croatia get weapons to defend themselves.

In retrospect therefore, what the OIC has decided in Jeddah Thursday at the conclusion of its meeting cannot be expected to lend the beleaguered Bosnians and Croats an iota of meaningful assistance unless the Islamic World decided to respond forcefully against the West's refusal to honour the Islamic call for an international military intervention and the lifting of the ban on the import of military supplies by Bosnia and Croatia.

The United Nations General Assembly is fast approaching the end of its annual session and unless the 50-member OIC acts fast and uses its strength to pass a General Assembly resolution endorsing its own decisions, the entire exercise will simply go down the drain with nothing to show for it. The OIC must redeem itself on the subject of Bosnia before it can expect to redeem itself as a viable and effective Islamic body that demonstrates Islamic strength and unity.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I daily criticised Arab oil states whose regimes, it said, boast about their material wealth which they had no hand in earning, noting that these regimes are denying their people any kind of freedom. By contrast, it said, Jordan is rich with its culture, freedom, democracy and national unity though it might be poor in natural resources. What we cherish here is respect for the human being and we care for our democracy and freedom of which the people of many other Arab countries are deprived, said the daily. While other Arabs brag about their wealth, which does not benefit the majority, we in Jordan boast of the fact that we do not practise terrorism and dictatorship, which characterise the rule of many Arab regimes around us, it continued. While Jordan enjoys tranquility, fraternal affection and democratic rule and freedom, it noted, other Arab states lack the courage to open the door for any form of democracy. In many Arab societies, citizens, to be afraid of the regime, are denied free expression, cannot open their mouths to voice any protest and are not allowed to open their eyes to see the facts but are only allowed to obey orders in total blindness, said the daily. For this reason, the paper said, other regimes are unleashing media campaigns against Jordan.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily ridiculed the Islamic meeting in Jeddah which called for sending arms to the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina expressing his view that the resolution will remain on paper only. Sultan Al Hattab said that the Islamic countries' foreign ministers who took the decision knew in advance that the United States and the western powers would not allow such development in Europe but had chosen to announce this decision as a hypocritical manifestation of support for the embattled people. He said the Muslim nations ought to have announced shipments of food and medicine to the Bosnians, rather than arms, and they ought to have looked to their Somali brothers who are dying of starvation and provide them with food too. Most of the countries attending the Jeddah meeting, the writer said, have to date failed to provide any food shipments to the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina and showed their support only by lip service through declaring their decision to send arms to them, knowing well that such a decision will by no means be implemented. The Muslim nations ought to have rallied to extend meaningful support to the Palestinian children and the people of Jerusalem who are facing Israeli occupation and atrocities and, if need be, send arms to these people to liberate the Islamic shrines, the writer added.

## Arabs and Americans towards the twenty-first century

**Palestinian Professor Edward W. Said, prominent American-Palestinian scholar, recently delivered an address at the Arab American University Graduates Convention in Washington, D.C. Following is the full text of the address:**

During the final week of the U.S. election campaign many Arabs, when they were not endorsing George Bush, subscribed to the view that any and all presidential candidates, Democratic, Republican, or independent, were equally bad when it came to the Middle East. This is an unsatisfactorily vague and despondent view.

The United States has just emerged from a twelve-year period of economic and above all social drift, in which so-called free market policies — a code word for Darwinian greed and untrammelled rapacity — have led to the decay of the infrastructure, massive unemployment, an appalling crisis in education and in health care, the ruination of the cities, and a disastrous ecological policy. In addition, first under Reagan and then Bush, the U.S. recreated itself yet again as an imperial power whose arrogant attitude towards the rest of the world culminated in Operation Desert Storm, a war that cost the Arab World a figure conservatively estimated at \$620 billion, and that resulted in the destruction of Iraq, a country of central historical and political importance to the Arab World as a whole.

True, the dreadful Saddam Hussein provided the U.S. and his reactionary Gulf neighbours with a perfect excuse to attack him after his brutally stupid and indefensibly criminal occupation of Kuwait. What was worse is how the U.S. has now been given a free hand in the Arab World, where it intervenes, stations troops at will, continues to violate the sovereignty of Iraq and impose untold suffering on its peoples, all in the name of freedom and democracy, altruism and morality.

In addition, the Republican presidencies of Reagan and Bush have produced a remarkable, not to say baffling turn of mind and opinion within the Arab World. During the past decade and a half it is true that with the end of the cold war, the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the reunification of Germany and Europe and the reemergence of ethnic and nationalist rivalries all over the world, Arabs have suddenly found themselves facing a new political landscape.

Politically, the new landscape has been dominated paradoxically by the bankrupt economic power of the U.S. which, however, retains a massive, even frightening military and ideological capacity to work its way all over the world. At the same time, its own American people are worse off than they have ever been, in some cases worse off than many people in Israel who are now the beneficiaries of an unrestricted U.S. aid policy applied more generously abroad than at home.

Nevertheless, because of the turn of events in Eastern Europe, because of the increasingly conservative economic and social policies of the U.S., because also of what was perceived as a new muscularity in U.S. foreign policy, almost the whole of the Arab World's ruling elite found itself seeking Washington, supplicating Washington, prostrating itself before Washington and its Republican president. Aid to Israel was increasing as never before, and all around the Arab World the crisis and tension of the North-South relationship, with its debilitating prostration of innumerable countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, intensified. This did not deter the Arab rulers and most of their American-trained advisors who seemed to find in the U.S.'s leadership positive qualities that were either obscure or unperceived by most Americans.

Granted that, for example, Egypt approached bankruptcy and poverty on a horrendous scale and granted also that Kuwait and Saudi Arabia perceived in the U.S. a saviour who would rescue them from Iraq and Iran and granted even that Jordan, the PLO and Syria saw the United States as the only world power capable of hastening the process towards peace. These things are very different, however, from the general attitude which was to regard the U.S. as providing solutions to Arab problems, problems that properly fall within the sphere of responsibility of Arab governments. Nowhere was this more true than during the immediate aftermath of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. From that time on, one sensed that to all intents and purposes what the U.S. wanted, how the U.S. saw the future of the region, how the U.S. wished that things would be done, all these took precedence over the perspective on local affairs that is the prerogative, indeed the responsibility and duty

of local, regional authorities, those of the Arab states themselves. In time the wishes of the Bush administration became in effect not just the wishes of most Arab princes and presidents, but also the norm through which their policies were measured. I find this utterly preposterous, especially as we stand at the threshold of the twenty-first century. Why has a collective nigger mentality descended over everyone, so much so that during the last weeks of the campaign a most unseemly chorus of Arabs (even including several leading Palestinians) were quoted in the American press as favouring Bush over Clinton. How could it have been forgotten that it was Bush who not only carpet-bombed Iraq but also gave Israel the \$10-billion loan guarantee, plus a sizeable package of additional goodies? How could it be that a failed president domestically, such as Bush became increasingly during his solitary and undistinguished incumbency as a one-term president, could appear to so many knowing Arabs as their champion, when every evidence pointed the other way?

With a few exceptions, Arab state policies and attitudes towards the United States have gone beyond mere dependency and have attained an almost entirely prone position. I am not enough of an expert on these policies to be able to say why this has taken place, but what I do find particularly impressive is the collective amnesia about Arab history, and Arab actualities, that has occurred during the past decade or so. Here the resemblance between Reaganism and the new climate in the Arab World is very striking. Just as Reaganism effectively decreed the end of history and buried the ideas that government is supposed to care for the people, a generation of Arab leaders and intellectuals who were in effect the creatures of Arab nationalism, the 1967 defeat and the 1973 war, retreated from their own history into one or another variety of chauvinism, defensive xenophobia, and a kind of mendacity about the U.S. and its history of policies towards the Arabs as a people and culture that is breathtaking. We need to remind ourselves that no discernible American policy in the Middle East during this period did anything to advance the cause of democracy, human, women's and minority rights at all. On the contrary, American power and money went directly or indirectly to suppressing democracy and promoting war, or genocide (as was the case with the Iraqi and Turkish onslaught against the Kurdish people), and autocracy. What sort of sordid realpolitik is it for Arabs and Americans to be allied in such pursuits?

Or consider the equally pernicious question of censorship and the absence of any real freedom of expression in the Arab and Islamic World. Note first that neither any Arab government nor the American president has taken any serious position on the outrageous fatwa promulgated against Salman Rushdie by the Iranian government. I know that a lot of people are tired of the whole matter, but it seems to me to be an issue of the most pressing importance that a mood of such vast public apathy prevails even though a government can for over three years internationally advertise a reward of several million dollars for the killing of an author, and very few leaders, intellectuals, or authors in the Arab World and America take the matter up with their governments. Non-action here is the equivalent of tacit support for the Iranian government's gangsterism.

Or consider the state of the Arab press, especially the press published in Europe. It is difficult to think of exceptions to the rule that most if not all of it forbids honest criticism of rulers, governments and policies in the Arab World, especially those of the Gulf. Why? Because these potentates own the papers and stifle criticism. Between 1986 and 1990 I wrote a monthly column for a weekly Arabic magazine published in London. I had a very satisfying relationship with the paper and with its young, extremely capable Saudi editor. Most of what I wrote concentrated on the United States, whose society, culture and politics I was, I think, generally critical of, but not irresponsibly so. Indeed I was frequently congratulated and thanked by the editor for what I wrote. Then in August 1990, right after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, I was politely informed that no further criticism of America would be permitted in my columns. The relationship with America had changed. I was

told, and the magazine's owners were not about to jeopardise this new relationship for a loose cannon like me. I resigned, regretfully but very sadly since it still seems to me that our people can ill-afford a philosophy of fawning servility to the U.S. and to the ruler at critical times such as this. And, if I may add one more rather grim personal anecdote, the editor of another leading Saudi-owned Arabic paper in Europe has been telling me for at least the past three years that he would love to have me write for the paper but he fears what I would write might get the paper closed or banned.

There is thus a new hierarchy of power enshrining an anti-democratic mindset that has come into being during the past decade and a half of Republican leadership in the U.S. As it stands at present we have had a declared U.S. policy that regards the Arab World as its quasi-personal fiefdom, willing to go to war to protect what it perceives as its interests — mainly unrestricted access to cheap oil and a political status quo — in the region. The Arab World, and of course Israel, has fallen in line completely. Change is not permitted so long as it is not perceived to be in the U.S.'s interests: for its attempt to evolve into democracy and true independence one country, Jordan, has borne the brunt of unpleasantly punitive U.S. policy. Arab elites now see their duty as essentially keeping the U.S. happy, buying unnecessary arms and anticipating the U.S. politically in going along with its extremely peculiar vision of an Arab-Israeli peace process.

In the meantime, Israel continues its occupation of South Lebanon, the West Bank, Gaza, and the Golan Heights, attacking here, bombing there, imprison-

ing, maiming, beating everywhere, spreading misery and oppression at will. Who could imagine that about 200 million Arabs today are represented by people who have no collective position at all on these matters? That is a fact, however, and it is directly attributable to the amnesia I spoke of earlier. But if we accept with sad resignation the attitudes of such states as Saudi Arabia and Egypt, how much angrier are we likely to be with the leaders of so-called nationalist Arab peoples and movements who go along with this kind of thinking. I have made no secret of the fact that I am in favour of face-to-face negotiations between Palestinians and Israelis. Neither has a military option against the other and despite the enmity and bitterness they share, one as oppressor, the other as oppressed. I have no doubt that they must somehow find a way to live together in peace and equality on the land of Palestine. Yet because of a disastrously ill-considered policy during the Gulf war, the Palestinian leadership accepted the idea, forced on it by its so-called friends in the Arab World, that it was obliged to take what it could as a loser, no matter what the U.S. and Israel proposed in concert with Egypt and Saudi Arabia. In a matter of weeks during the summer of 1991 we had given up our right to represent ourselves, given up our right to discuss final sovereignty over our own land, given up discussion of Israel's settlements, given up East Jerusalem, given up over half the population of Palestine who now live in exile, most of them as stateless people in refugee camps like those of Lebanon, Syria and Jordan. Would that these concessions were indeed opportunistic, because they were not. They harmed us and they radically misconstrued the fact that without Palestinian participation there could have been no peace process. I repeat: I am for negotiations, and I am for what has been called a two-state solution. But what I have been against is that short-sighted notion guiding policy that Palestinians must accept irrational and insulting Israeli and American

demands for concessions simply in order to get close to and please the right-wing Republican administration of George Bush and James Baker. In the process not only did we forget our own history of struggle and the reality of our people's dispossession, but we also forgot the true extent of what this alleged friend of the Arabs, George Bush, has done to us. It was his administration that has continued to shower Israel with gifts and has enhanced what George Ball, in his splendid new book, has called a passionate attachment. Bush and Baker accepted the Shamir plan and foisted it on us. Bush and Baker gave Israel the \$10-billion loan guarantee. Bush and Baker have said virtually nothing in the past year on the abrogation of Palestinian human rights, on the bombing of South Lebanon, on the criminal behaviour of the Shin Beth, the Israeli army and the Mossad, to say nothing of the continued torture and horrible persecution of the people of Iraq.

Nor is this all. Somehow, the Palestinian leadership has got the idea that if it tries to cozy up with important figures in the Bush administration and relies on them, then the U.S. would line up closer with Palestine and less with Israel in the negotiations. This idea is pure Arabian Nights fantasy. Worse, it is yet another radical misreading of the nature of power in American society, a misreading which unless it is changed and made more accurate will lead us all further down the path to disaster. Even in Bush's America, power in America is complex and not simply the derivative of the ruler. Because relatively speaking Palestinians are weaker than the other sides in the negotiations we must more precisely, more exactly gauge our strengths and weaknesses within the domestic U.S., and make decisions accordingly.

As a decade of public opinion polls show, our strengths here are to be found in large segments of the academic and church communities, in the women's movements, in the African-American, Latin, and Asian-American communities, and all through what

became a great emblem throughout the post-colonial world, the sign of a majestic and principled effort to regain lands and rights and, yes, history lost to a movement that was backed by the West and which claimed greater rights to the land and to history than did the land's native Arab inhabitants. How disheartening then, and how wrong not only meekly to accept the will of the Bush administration, but also to forget the truths of Arab history and the constituents of a collective Arab cultural and political identity. This laxness towards the Arab past, which is a complex and far from monolithic thing, is the very essence of colonialism. It was not an Arab conception of the Arab past that has been eclipsed, one that can never be compelled into the amiable but empty formulae of contemporary Arab statecraft, with its corruption, its mediocrity, and hypocrisy, its almost total lack of any principle at all except personal profit and mere survival.

There is a great impassioned passage in The Wretched of the Earth where Fanon described the way colonialism operates not only in the taking of land but also the robbing of history: "Colonialism," he says, "is not satisfied merely with holding a people in its grip and emptying the native's brain of all form and content. By a kind of perverted logic, it turns to the past of the oppressed people, and distorts, disfigures and destroys it." I think that it is a realisation of this truth, that colonialism distorts the past as well as the present, which fuelled the anger of so many of us at what went on during the June 3 meeting of the Jerusalem Foundation, when such tarnished and devalued luminaries as Henry Kissinger, Fouad Ajami, Martin Peretz, and Mort Zuckerman, did violence to the reality of our history and the dignity of our efforts at independence and liberation. But in this assault on the Arab actuality far too many Arabs played a role, complicity and complacency.

But, I think, we felt anger at the way we were reduced, after the fact, to a kind of enervated silence which reflected the inadequacy of means at our disposal to contest this new form of colonialism. But, as you all know, there was a challenge mounted by, among others, The American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), and some satisfying results were in fact obtained. The point I want to make, however, is that we do have means at our disposal that are not inconceivable, and now that the Bush era has finally ended it behooves us to look at the new political topography of the U.S. and consider what lies before us. Many of us who voted in the election were doubtless ambivalent; after all the Democratic Party has historically been very pro-Israeli, and, worse, influential members of its right-wing, like Henry Jackson, George Mitchell, Daniel Inouye, or influential members of its putative left wing like Teddy Kennedy, Alan Cranston, and Mario Cuomo are fanatically, some would say hysterically, pro-Israeli. This is certainly true and it is disquieting. The winning Democratic ticket of Bill Clinton and Al Gore is a very flawed one, as far as the Middle East is concerned. Gore's views on Israel are an exact replica of those of The New Republic, a magazine that is little more than a U.S. house organ for the Likud, in all its virulent hate-mongering and racist fulmination. Clinton has said some pretty inflammatory things during the campaign but like all presidential campaigners a lot of what he said can be discounted as cynical pandering to immediate interests, and need not therefore become a long-term policy.

I do not want to minimise the uncertainties, the worrying possibilities of the new administration. These have been spoken about ad nauseam for at least three months, without, in my opinion, suggesting very much in the way of alternatives except hand-wringing and idiotic nostalgia for Baker and Bush. We should focus our discussion on the fact that whatever else he is, Clinton is different from Bush. He won the election principally because of widespread anger at Bush — that is certainly true — but it is also true that he articulated a more liberal, and in my opinion, more acceptable view of the U.S. than what we have had for the past twelve years. Clinton endorsed women's, gays, and minority rights; his views on the economy, within the very narrow parameters of U.S. economic discourse, are slightly progressive; and although his military and foreign policy views seem occasionally dismaying, he is on record as favouring a policy on human rights not unlike Jimmy Carter's. Obviously Clinton is very far from being a socialist or someone in favour of Third World liberation, but the main

point I want to make, kind of change that victory could portend domestic outcomes that ity with some of the that Arabs have strong promises at least a context and rhetoric ment that is steadily Arabs generally, and as Palestinians, Lebanon, Iraq, Syria, North Africa, and who are in search of justice and an acceptable obstacles to sort the least of which sphere dominated by is still in the grip of ing and racist clichés, Congress that remain the territory of the Israel Public Affairs (AIPAC), and the tical Action Commi, that support Israel board. But it is o acknowledge the diffi quide another to s adelines wringing. This is where organ Arab American Graduates (AAGU), increasingly impos which is to regain the and cultural territory it during the early e joined the AAGU spoke at a convention Evanston, organised friend Ibrahim Abu list of speakers and veritable who's who the progressive and tradition of both Europe, the Arab an Worlds, people il Memon, Noam Ch Ahmad, Maxime Ro vis Makhoud. By sevensies Camp Da Lebanese war took the organisation, w reduced itself further years later it almost it is a tribute and a sign of resistance an in those members Talhami, Hala Mak Jreisati, Jamal Nassa that the AAGU pre brought to us this e annual convention g

Most of us feel the our arena of activi Arab World, or gba ism and Ayatollah current Arab World an America that adv and uncertainty into tury. What we do in and what the AAGU effect to articulate both the American a future that is bette now exists on the g means, our method, doing this is princip and intellectual: pro knowledge about the age, about the Arab man, about contem culture than what is it able. The AAGU co collectively and thro bers individually pe ventory role — wri ing, organising, and advantage of the ve new opportunity affo Clinton's victory. I ha therefore that there a difference between th can complicity that b invasion of Lebanon tion Desert Storm and tial — I underline potential — the pote new rhetorical climat by the Democrats.

But as with all thing, history, nothing is si for the taking; it ha to be intelligently, digently. Our first orness is to insert oursel national agenda. Last daughter Najla told Kennedy Cuomo came ton to speak about the struggle for human rig is Bobby Kennedy's daughter, and she ha excellent job throug nisation of bringing a human rights abus t the world. In 1991 award, of which she is architect, was giv Sourani and Avigdor. So there is a lot to acknowledged and cel tween this youngest in the Kennedy legacy struggle for human rig was something of a t knowing members of ence that Kerry Kennet spoke about human rig Philippines, and Ma Kenya, South Afric America, Korea and rights of Ethiopian Jew once mentioning her vious experience with Raji Sourani and the poor, oppressed Gaz the saddest and mos place I have ever se As Lillian Hellman a racial time is upon shouldn't be too surpr Ms. Cuomo's lapse be amongst Left liberals i since the earliest year century. The British Libe

(Continued on page 5)



# Features

## THE WEEK IN PRINT

### Parliament is expected to move beyond rhetorics in next session

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

In the past week Jordanian dailies have given prominence to the Middle East question, the outcome of the President's visit to Jordan, and a host of domestic topics. The observation, this week, of the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Arab League's declaration of solidarity with the Palestinian people should serve as an incentive for Arab countries and the world community to support the Palestinian cause. The Middle East is the theatre of the struggle for the liberation of the occupied lands, said Taber Al Udwan, a columnist in Al Dustour daily. While we approach the end of the 20th century, we, regrettably, are no end to the sufferings of the Palestinian people; we are nevertheless encouraged by the ongoing struggle in Palestine, said the writer.

On the occasion of International Solidarity with the Palestinian people, the Israeli leaders were urged by the French president, Jacques Mitterrand, during his visit to Israel recently, at the U.N. General Assembly and the U.N. Security Council, to end the Jewish occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, said Mohammad Kharrub, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily. The columnist, who writes in Al Dustour, said that the president's statement reflected the world community's profound realization of the need for a settlement in accordance with the international legacy and U.N. resolutions.

Mahmoud Rimawi, another Al Dustour columnist, described Mr. Mitterrand's statement in Israel as a psychological shock to the Israeli leadership. It was a clear message to Israel, he said, and a sign that Europe was making a determined effort to bring the region back to peace based on justice, said the writer.

On the outcome of Mr. Mitterrand's visit to Jordan, Sawt Al Shaab said that the press conference given by King Hussein and the French president revealed a convergence of views concerning the Middle East issue. The paper said that the president expressed his country's deep understanding of the issue, thus reflecting the European attitude with the King and the president called the need for pursuing the peace process, but their statements only revealed Europe's role in aiding this process achieve success.

Three Masarwah, a columnist in Al Ra'i, reviewed France's relations with the Arab World over the past 10 years, saying that Paris has refused to lift its economic embargo on Iraq, despite its being aligned behind the Arab States in the Gulf war. The writer said that France did not veto any agreements within the European Community in Washington's favour and can end its hegemony over the Gulf oil. He said that Jordan, which welcomed the French president in the past week, is awaiting practical steps by Paris to bolster Arab-Jordan relations in the true sense of the word.

Ahmad Dabbas, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab, said that France shows that it respects Jordan's sovereignty and supports the King's moderate attitude and its role to bolster democracy and liberal pluralism. The writer said that Jordan is facing difficulties and challenges in

the drive to help the Palestinians achieve their rights in their homeland, on the economic level and other areas; and it looks towards France and Europe as a whole for support and assistance and awaits France's translation of solidarity with Jordan into practice.

Taber Al Udwan, a columnist in Al Dustour, praised the French president for his idea of creating a European-Middle East development fund noting that the Arab states have sustained huge losses in the Gulf war and were in need of support.

He said Jordan is awaiting practical steps in the course of French economic support for Jordan and serious French efforts to force Israel to comply with world community's resolutions and international legitimacy.

A columnist in Sawt Al Shaab focuses attention on Iran's subversive activities in Egypt and Algeria and other Arab countries.

The present Iranian regime, like the shah regime, is seeking regional hegemony and therefore it is using violent means to achieve that goal and implement this policy, said Najj Alhouth.

The writer said that The Iranian government is pursuing all means at its disposal to achieve its goals in the Arab World and its policies conform with those being adopted by the United States in breaking up the Arab region.

Mahmoud Rimawi discussed on the same topic and said that the Iranian regime is increasingly involving itself in the internal affairs of Arab states. The columnist, who writes for Al Ra'i daily, said that Iran has been blamed for the unrest in Egypt and Algeria and is continually trying to bolster its ties with Sudan and Syria under the pretext of supporting Islamist groups. Furthermore, he said Iran is attacking the ongoing Arab-Israeli peace negotiations and interfering in the affairs of the Arab World.

Turning to domestic affairs, a columnist in Al Dustour said that Jordanians hope that the new parliamentary session would not be transformed by deputies into an arena aimed at boosting their stand at the coming November elections.

Nabeel Al Sharif said that the current parliament session has a full agenda of important topics which require solutions and not rhetorics.

A columnist in Al Ra'i urged Parliament to discuss the landlords and tenants law in a bid to ensure more social justice and end the greediness of house owners. Mohammad Subeithi said that the landlords are increasingly demanding that the tenants evict their homes so that the house can be let for higher rent. He said the courts are full of cases that are examining this matter.

In the wake of the Gulf war and with the flood of people coming to Jordan, the landlords showed their greediness and are trying desperately to evict the tenants through the help of courts, the writer said. He said that such matters must be settled by Parliament which can introduce amendments to existing laws.

A columnist in Al Ra'i tackled the question of executions in Jordan, demanding that Jordan end

the execution of criminals.

He called on the government and Parliament to reconsider capital punishment and follow the example of 35 other nations which have so far taken this step. He said 80 per cent of nations do not apply the capital punishment, whether they have laws on such punishment or not, and that he believed that only God has the right to take life and not humans.

Mona Munir Shugair, a columnist in Al Dustour, is not happy about the Jordanian papers' performance. As long as the government owns more than 50 per cent of the capital of these papers, they can only reflect the official government's views in most matters, the writer said.

In an atmosphere of democracy, one should read newspapers that are free of government control, or papers published by parties, he said.

Commenting on the AIDS disease, Ahmad Dabbas, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab, said that this killer disease is now threatening whole continents and it would be quite necessary for Jordan to adopt more stringent measures to keep the country free of it.

The writer said that the Health Ministry should announce the AIDS cases as they come and inform the public about the facts related to this issue. He also demanded that public awareness campaigns not be confined to the world day for combating AIDS.

### Arabs and Americans towards the 21st century

(Continued from page 4)

ty and the Fabians did it, the American Democratic Party has always done it (except for Jimmy Carter, George Ball, George McGovern, and Jesse Jackson and the congressional Black caucus), the Socialist International does it, this rather deliberate exclusion of the Palestinian fight for democracy and liberation which remains nevertheless part of the great march towards human freedom, despite the rascals and cowards. The fact is that whether western liberals like it or not, Arabs and Palestinians who yearn for democracy and have sacrificed their lives for it are part of the same constituency that brought Bill Clinton to the presidency and that gave Robert Kennedy his status. And it is up to us as Arabs in America who must reject the legacy of Reaganism and Bushism to remind our compatriots and colleagues — in the words of Aimé Césaire — no race has a monopoly on beauty and intelligence and there is room for all at the rendez-vous of victory.

What it comes to in the end is a return to principles, something the AAUG has always stood for. What is at stake for us Americans and Arabs is nothing less than equality, and neither autonomy, nor interim self-government, nor any of the other things that are the coin of negotiations and local arrangements. We are for negotiations and dialogue, yes, but as between equals, not as between servants and masters. This of

course was the great lesson of the anti-apartheid movement, that it promised as the unchanging goal an outcome of equality between the races in South Africa. It is a testimonial to the leadership of the ANC and Mandela that the goal never changed although the

tactics did. Palestine is the test case for politics in the late twentieth century, and I am sure, well into the 21st. It is full of density and complexity, but for Palestinians and other Arabs it is really all about the struggle for equality, for the right to stand at the

rendez-vous of victory along with all the others. The particular here can come to stand for the general, for the general principle that no one can be denied the right to equality, neither Jew, nor Arab, nor woman, nor man. This is the message we need to work hard to

make current in the changed America that the new president-elect has promised. We must work, and write, and organise and give, indefatigably and, with a full knowledge of who our real friends are, I am sure that we can prevail.



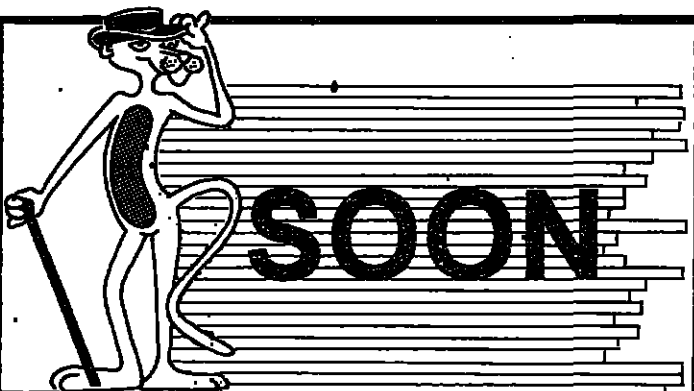
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## JORDAN MARKET PLACE

### King

(Continued from page 1)

he King urged the Arab parties to state close coordination over the negotiations.

Asked whether he would meet with President-elect Bill Clinton, the King said he would be very happy to meet him but that Mr. Clinton was not seeking a meeting with any of the Arab states.

The King, however, noted that in his visit to the United States this week, he would continue his efforts to bring about a settlement in the Middle East, he said.

He said that Jordan, which welcomed the French president in the past week, is awaiting practical steps by Paris to bolster Arab-Jordan relations in the true sense of the word.

Ahmad Dabbas, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab, said that France shows that it respects Jordan's sovereignty and supports the King's moderate attitude and its role to bolster democracy and liberal pluralism.

The writer said that Jordan is facing difficulties and challenges in the drive to help the Palestinians achieve their rights in their homeland, on the economic level and other areas; and it looks towards France and Europe as a whole for support and assistance and awaits France's translation of solidarity with Jordan into practice.

### Abu Odeh

(Continued from page 1)

lose hope of that, particularly at the present when tragic consequences are taking place as a result of the stumbling or the collapse of peace talks in several regions of the world.

Based on this and coupled with the sincere will to bring about a just, comprehensive and lasting peace settlement, the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Arab countries have responded to the U.S. and Russian peace initiative and participated in the Madrid conference, he said. Jordan has also participated in the meetings of all the committees which were formed by the conference whether in the bilateral or multilateral talks, he added.

"Jordan was even the only country which did not miss any meeting since the start of the peace process till now," he noted.

He called on Israel to make realistic moves for peace if its public declarations of a desire for peace are genuine.

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## IAAF ordered to pay \$27 million in damages

COLUMBUS, Ohio (R) — A U.S. federal judge ordered the IAAF to pay world 400 metres record holder Harry "Butch" Reynolds \$27.3 million in damages for banning him from athletics after failing a dope test.

"I hope this proves my innocence," said Reynolds, who was out of the sport for 18 months after failing a dope test.

Michael Johnson, who was out of the sport for 18 months after failing a dope test, said Reynolds' ban was "unjust and unfair."

The court decision was based on facts.

The IAAF is the U.S. arm of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), which was not represented after claiming the U.S. court had no jurisdiction over it.

The IAAF looked set to ignore the ruling. "Our position remains the same. We are advised the U.S. courts have no jurisdiction over the IAAF," a spokeswoman in London said.

U.S. lawyers vowed Friday to mount a relentless pursuit of the

IAAF to collect the \$27.3 million judgment awarded to Reynolds.

The lawyers threatened to target the IAAF's major sponsors and hound athletics' ruling body as far as the Atlanta Olympics until it complied with the U.S. federal court ruling in favour of the world 400 metres record holder.

Reynolds has been fighting the IAAF in court for most of 1992, initially to win permission to compete for a spot in the U.S. team at the Summer Olympics in Barcelona.

He failed to qualify for the team but sought \$4.5 million in lost income and \$35 million in punitive damages.

He had won the silver medal in the 1988 Seoul Olympics, setting the 400 metres world record of 43.29 seconds in Zurich, Switzerland, on August 17 of that year.

Reynolds, who said earlier this month that the IAAF had "made my life hell," said he planned to return to indoor competition in the next couple of months and hoped to compete in both the world indoor and outdoor championships.

"I think I'm definitely going to have a great indoor season," he said.

## Davis Cup competition Agassi to open and close finals for U.S.

FORT WORTH (R) — Andre Agassi will play the first and last matches for the United States in the Davis Cup finals against Switzerland and the Wimbledon champion warned his opponents Thursday that they have little chance of beating him.

"I don't think I've ever been as prepared as this. I'm ready to go," said Agassi, who brings an 18-4 Davis Cup record into the weekend tie.

At the official draw ceremony, which was held outside the Tarrant County convention centre arena in downtown Fort Worth and had a decidedly wild west flavour, Agassi was drawn to open the finals against Swiss number one Jakob Hlasek ranked 34th in the world.

Should the heavily favoured Americans stumble and fail to wrap up the tie before the final match, the cup to win or lose will be on Agassi's shoulders when he takes on 36th-ranked Olympic champion Marc Rosset Sunday.

The flamboyant Las Vegas native has excelled in Davis Cup and has come to relish the pressure and the idea of playing for his country.

"Davis Cup brings out a whole new level in me," said Agassi who is 6-0 in the international competition this year, including a victory in the fifth and deciding match against Czechoslovakia in the quarter-finals and a huge win over Stefan Edberg in the semis with Sweden.

"I have no doubt that for somebody to beat me this weekend they're going to have to play the best tennis of their life... and then hope to get a few breaks," said the confident ninth-ranked Agassi at the post-draw news conference.

World number one Jim Courier will play the second singles against Rosset and open Sunday's reverse singles against Hlasek.

On Saturday John McEnroe and third-ranked Pete Sampras

will reprise their role as doubles partners against the French Open champion team of Hlasek and Rosset.

Courier, who was again complaining of tennis burn-out after losing to Boris Becker in the ATP Championships final last month, also pronounced himself mentally fit and ready to go.

"It's never tough for any of us to get psyched up for the Davis Cup final," said the French and Australian Open champion.

Sampras, the U.S. Open runner-up who was devastated by his singles losses to Guy Forget and Henri Leconte in the final in France last year, said the United States has an advantage because Hlasek and Rosset are playing singles and doubles.

"Hopefully Andre and Jim will wear them out a little bit and they'll be a little bit tired and John and I will just clean up shop," Sampras said.

Meanwhile, John McEnroe passed up another Davis Cup news conference and missed a chance to hear his teammates speak of him with a reverence that might have made him blush.

"I think John is a great inspiration to this team," gushed Agassi on the eve of the finals against Switzerland.

"John is ultimate team player," added Sampras.

U.S. captain Tom Gorman opened the post-draw interview session by explaining McEnroe's absence as a desire to avoid personal questions about his highly-publicised marital problems.

McEnroe has said he plans to retire from the rigours of the regular tennis circuit after this year and Agassi said that as much as they want to win the Davis Cup for the United States, they want to win it for McEnroe.

The Swiss Davis Cup team admitted they were surprised and a little bit lucky to find themselves in the Davis Cup finals against the United States this



Andre Agassi

weekend and said, win or lose, they were just happy to be here.

"I never imagined to play this year or next year in the final of Davis Cup," said 22-year-old Olympic gold medalist Marc Rosset at a post-draw news conference.

Jakob Hlasek, who will play the opening singles match against Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi and team with Rosset for

Saturday's doubles, rejected the underdog label and said all the pressure was on the Americans.

"We had a lot of fun this year. As Marc said, we never thought we were going to be here. We never imagined it, so we have nothing to lose," Hlasek said.

"We're not going to be nervous, we're just going to try our best," he added.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY DECEMBER 5, 1992  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Found.

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A triple Moon square. Void of course finds you very restless with all kinds of ideas, some sound and some visionary, that require considerable analysis before putting them into effect.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Now you can plan that trip or expansion new set of circumstances that can make your fondest dreams come true with an awareness of your potential.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Think about the security you desire and then become better informed in all phases how best to attain it.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) A straight shooting influential man of the world is ready, willing and able to give you an insight in how to advance your public image as you desire.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) A day to think in terms of the various activities that take up your time and to approach them from a better well rounded stance.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Consider well your finest talent now and the best means by which you can get it to work out to your overall advantage so push ahead with it.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Its a day to seriously consider just what you can do at your own

residence to have conditions more in tune with wishes willing to make changes.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Consider well those who want active participation your usual and routine and get their support for you to come.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Think big in a firm property sense now and you'll be able to make such a come true in less time usually necessary.

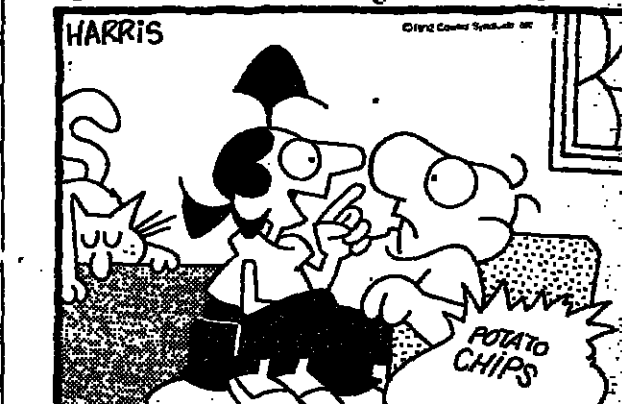
**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Your aims and your goals in the right now so do whatever you push and make them work your satisfaction.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 19) You now find it day to study all aspects of the future the goal is most vital to your future basic need.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 20 to February 18) Join with all your friends and acquaintances as just as gregarious as you many benefits can flow from meeting.

**PISCES:** (February 19 to March 20) One of those days in from all angles just where headed in career, credit conditions and implement this nature.

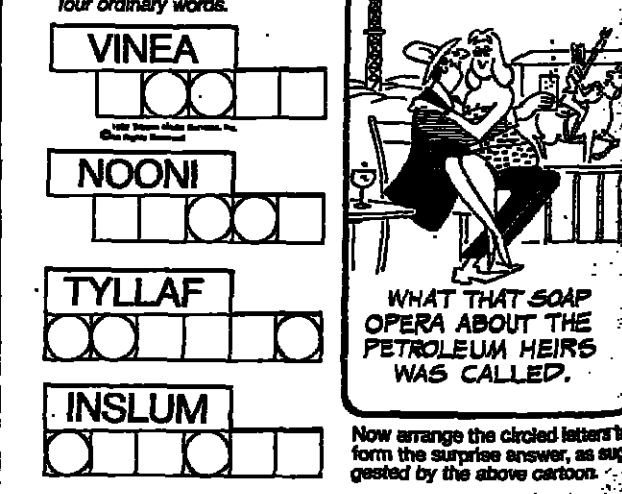
## THE BETTER HALF



"We shed millions of skin cells every day. From now on, shed the grouchy ones and keep the happy ones!"

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer: "VINEA" IN "NOONI" "TYLLAF" "INSLUM"

## THE Daily Crossword by Louis Sablin



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**ACROSS**  
1 Pa. port  
5 Tumble out  
9 "L.I. Abner" cartoonist  
13 Weaver's machine  
14 Scrub clean  
16 Cosmetic ingredient  
17 Dennis Day song  
20 Diet dishes  
21 Laugh lightly  
22 So-so grade  
23 "Of the D'Urville's"  
24 Sprite  
25 Pointed tools  
26 Simpleton  
32 "Stormy Weather" composer, Harold  
33 Spoken  
34 Choir voice  
35 Ethel Merman song  
36 Writer Anita  
37 "Crazy as a..."  
40 "Lucky"  
41 Finish  
42 Went by SST  
43 Intoxicated  
44 Portuguese navigator  
45 Play the horses  
46 Very hard  
48 Tail (horsey)  
50 Kate Smith song  
51 Singer Tannite  
52 Male duck  
53 Understand  
54 Thin strip  
55 Wise in debt  
56 Sensible

**DOWN**  
1 Shade tree  
2 Rogers and Astor  
3 Hawkeye State  
4 Jannings in "The Blue Angel"  
5 Blush  
6 Got up  
7 Spoil  
8 Greek letter  
9 Wagons  
10 "Thanks..."  
11 Sit for an artist  
12 Stars  
13 Gentry of "The Golden Girls"  
14 Tying (horsey)  
15 Audience disapproval  
16 Tom Sawyer's creator  
17 Clark of GWTW  
18 Artificial fabric  
19 Blank or both  
20 Ayres and Wallace  
21 Pointer  
22 Permit  
23 Kitchen need  
24 Parted (seeds)  
25 Reed  
26 Instruments  
27 Proficient  
28 Calmed (fear)  
29 Comedian Rich  
42 "...or up!"  
43 Appeared  
44 Accountant's loss  
45 Car pedal  
46 Axe or chisel  
47 Farber or Milly  
50 Chummy and  
51 Turner or Lo  
52 Money-worshiping deity  
54 Hit sign  
55 Notepad  
56 Religious reaction

## SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

### Judges likely to let soccer coma man die

LONDON (R) — Appeal Court judges said they were likely to allow doctors to stop feeding a young man who has been in a coma since a 1989 football stadium disaster. Tony Bland, 21, has been fed through a tube since he was badly crushed and his brain starved of oxygen during the disaster at the Hillsborough Stadium in Sheffield, in which 95 people were squeezed or trampled to death during a crowd surge. He has been in a persistent vegetative state ever since and medical experts say he will never recover. Bland will die once feeding is stopped.

### Italians lose unbeaten record in Eurobasketball

LONDON (R) — Italy's Scavolini Pesaro lost their 100 per cent record in the men's European Clubs' Basketball Championship semifinal series edged out 76-75 at Cibona Zagreb. The Croats took over at the head of Group A with Pesaro slipping to second. Real Madrid, easy 93-76 winners over Mechelen of Belgium are now the only unbeaten side, topping Group B with eight points from four games. They lead by a point from three clubs, including French champions Orthez who recorded a valuable 96-93 overtime win in Greece against Olympiakos.

### Beirut to host World Cup qualifying tournament

ZURICH (R) — Beirut, the agonies of the Lebanese civil war now fading, is to host a five-nation preliminary qualifying tournament for the 1994 soccer World Cup. International Football Federation (FIFA) general secretary Sepp Blatter told reporters that a preliminary phase would be held for Asian Group D due to the huge distances involved. He said Beirut would be the venue for the group's opening ties from May 7 to 15, 1993.

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- Accountants:**
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  - 2-4 years experience in accounting.
- Secretary:**
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  - Speaks & writes good English.
  - 2 years experience in office work.
  - Experience in personal computers is a must.
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## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HUSSEIN  
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### BAIT YOUR TRAP

Neither vulnerable. South deals.  
NORTH  
♠ A Q 7  
♥ 8 6 5  
♦ K J 10  
♣ K 9 8 2  
WEST  
♠ 10 6 4 2  
♥ 9 7 2  
♦ 8 5 3 2  
♣ 5 4  
EAST  
♠ 9 8 5  
♥ A K Q 3  
♦ 9 7 4  
♣ Q 10 3  
SOUTH  
♠ K J 3  
♥ J 10 4  
♦ A Q 6  
♣ A J 7 6

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass  
Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♣  
The Roman playwright Terence wrote that there is a demand for the man who can make wrong appear right. The scribe would have been proud to claim East as such a person.  
With 13 points in support of partner's no-trump opening bid, North expected South to have little trouble at a contract of three no trump. However, duplication of values and excellent defense by East proved otherwise.

## Are upsets in sight in the Italian League?

MILAN (AP) — It may be time for upsets in the Italian League. With title favourites having struggled against second rate teams and a slate of powerhouses scheduled underdogs in Sunday's 12th round, the combination may be right.

Especially vulnerable may be AC Milan, who are at San Siro Stadium, Ancona-Internazionale and Torino Foggia.

Elsewhere in the Italian First Division Sunday, Genoa is at Brescia, Napoli at Cagliari, Juventus at Fiorentina, Lazio at Pescara, Parma at As Roma, and Atalanta travels to Genoa to play Sampdoria.

Clashes between title contenders in the previous rounds gave some clear indications — league leader AC Milan looks unbeatable in a bid for a second consecutive title, runner up Internazionale is emerging as the second

powerhouse this season despite a lackluster start; and Juventus and Torino are out of contention for the title for the time being.

That leaves the second-rate teams to possibly threaten the leaders and revive title hopes of their subdued rivals.

Milan takes on Udinese, 15th in the 10 team league, with the red and black coming off a 4-0 victory against gone-to in the third round of the European Champions Cup and a 1-0 victory at Juventus.

It has gone a league record 45 games without a loss, but the two draws in its 8-2-0 record this season have both come at home. It has won all five of its game on the road.

"I have been preaching all week not to lower the guard," Milan coach Fabio Capello said. "All matches and all opponents are equally tough."

Young defender Stefano Nava will replace suspended sweeper Franco Baresi while Marco Van Basten, with 12 in 10 league games, will combine in front with Jean Pierre Papin and possibly Dejan Savicevic.

Savicevic, one of the six foreign players signed by Milan this season, has not yet played a full league game. He may be start in place of Frank Rijkaard, who is nursing a light leg strain.

Udinese, which has lost all five of its away matches this season, will rely on Argentine Duo Adel Daldo and Nestor Sensini and on newly-hired Polish forward Marek Koszminski.

Ancona, a first-division newcomer which has its only two victories at home, has allowed a league worst 31 goals. However its forwards have been almost as good as Inter's celebrated stars scoring 19, one less than Inter.

Inter, which held Milan to a 1-1 draw and scored in injury time to draw Brescia 2-1 in the two previous rounds, will start Mathias Sammer, Igor Shalimov and Salvatore Schillaci, who has recovered from a pulled muscle. Uruguayan forward Ruden Sosa will be sidelined with an injury. Fiorentina and Juventus, both beaten last week, clash at Florence's municipal stadium with the squad's fans having a tradition of a bitter rivalry.

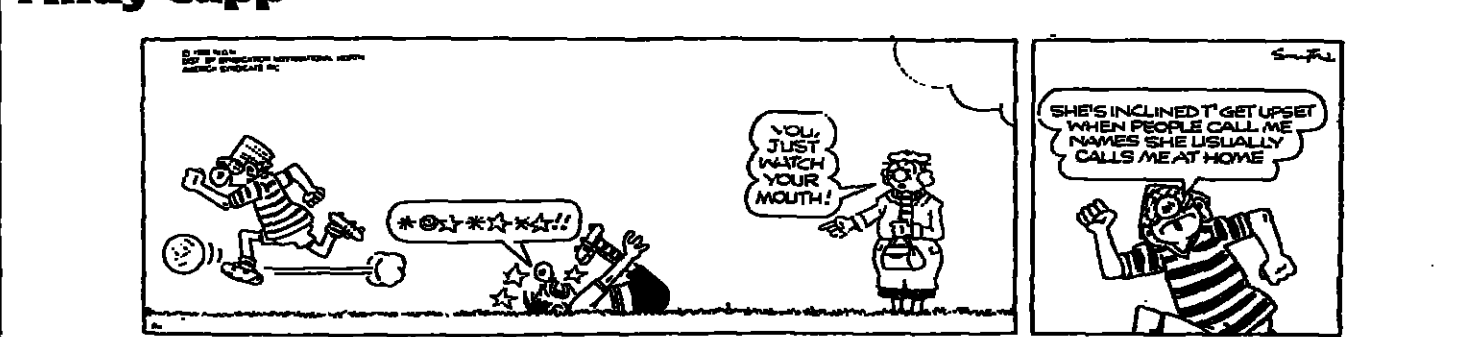
Juventus will be without injured starters Roberto Baggio and Julio Cesar while Fiorentina is expected to bring its usual startign 11 including Gabriel Batistuta, Brian Laudrup, Francesco Baiano and Stefan Effenberg.

Baggio, Juventus' leading scorer, is nursing a cracked rib and is not expected back until January.

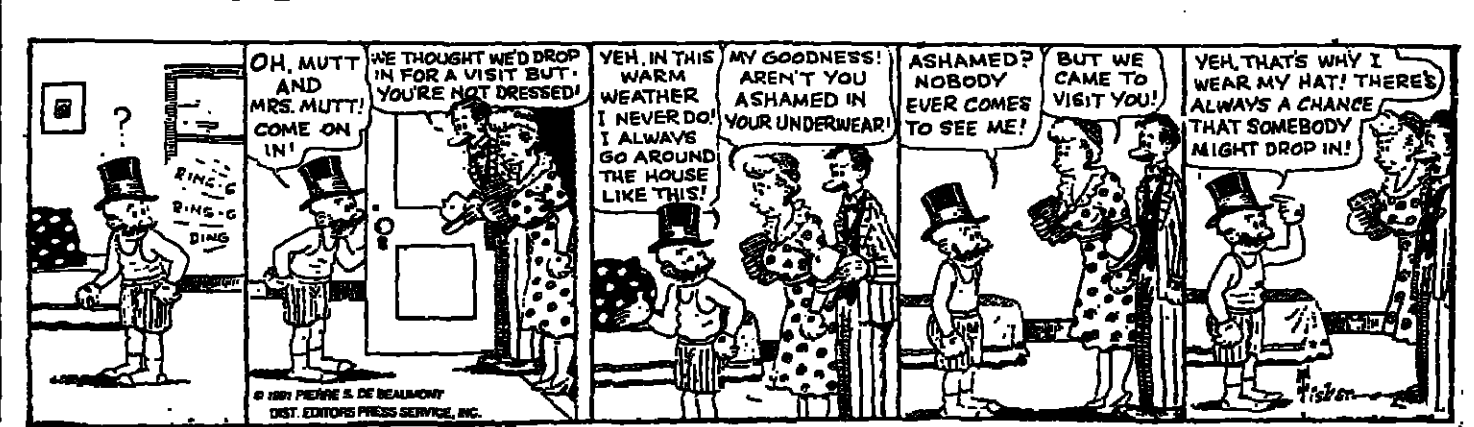
## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff





# Economy

Financial Markets  
in co-operation with  
Cairo Amman Bank

Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE Date 2/12/92	TOKYO CLOSE Date 3/12/92
Sterling Pound	1.5525	1.5465
Deutsche Mark	1.5740	1.5835
Swiss Franc	1.3965	1.4068
French Franc	5.3655	5.3785 **
Japanese Yen	124.42	124.55
European Currency Unit	1.2415	1.2379 **

Agency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
S. Dollar	8.25	8.87	8.87	8.12
Sterling Pound	7.18	6.87	7.00	6.56
Deutsche Mark	9.00	0.06	8.68	8.00
Swiss Franc	6.43	6.51	6.12	5.81
French Franc	11.25	10.75	10.12	8.50
Japanese Yen	3.87	3.65	3.56	3.56
European Currency Unit	12.38	11.43	10.68	9.62

Agency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
S. Dollar	0.688	0.690		
Sterling Pound	1.0627	1.0580		
Deutsche Mark	0.4338	0.4360		
Swiss Franc	0.4889	0.4913		
French Franc	0.1276	0.1282		
Japanese Yen	0.5518	0.5546		
Sch. Guilder	0.3858	0.3877		
Edish Krona	0.1071	0.1016		
Iran Lira	0.0493	0.0495		
Iran Franc	0.02115	0.02126		

Agency	Bid	Offer
S. Dollar	0.688	0.690
Sterling Pound	1.0627	1.0580
Deutsche Mark	0.4338	0.4360
Swiss Franc	0.4889	0.4913
French Franc	0.1276	0.1282
Japanese Yen	0.5518	0.5546
Sch. Guilder	0.3858	0.3877
Edish Krona	0.1071	0.1016
Iran Lira	0.0493	0.0495
Iran Franc	0.02115	0.02126

Agency	Bid	Offer
S. Dollar	1.7990	1.8150
Iran Lira	0.03528	0.03833
Iran Riyal	0.1830	0.1840
Iran Dinar	2.2850	2.3000
Iran Riyal	0.1864	0.1874
Iran Pound	0.2000	0.2100
Iran Riyal	1.7550	1.7690
Iran Dirham	0.1864	0.1874
Iran Drachma	0.3332	0.3465
Iran Pound	1.4516	1.4628

Agency	1.12.92	Close	2.12.92	Close
Share	166.98		166.35	
King Sector	120.53		120.24	
Finance Sector	183.42		182.96	
Industry Sector	228.27		226.88	
Services Sector	236.53		237.45	

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession in London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Friday.

ist rates will differ from those quoted:	U.S. dollars
sterling	1.5795/805
U.S. dollar	1.2725/30
	1.5770/80
	1.7720/70
	1.4090/100
	32.44/47
	5.3675/725
	1390/1393
	124.46/51
	6.4570/670
	6.4450/530
	6.1235/335
Price of gold	\$335.60/336.10

## Lost exports to Iraq cost Britain more than Gulf war

LONDON (R) — Lost exports to Iraq, including controversial arms and defence sales, cost British taxpayers more than fighting the Gulf war to drive Iraqi troops from Kuwait, according to a government report.

The National Audit Office said the state Export Credit Guarantee Department expected to pay out more than £850 million (\$1.30 billion) to British businesses who lost orders to Iraq and Kuwait when Britain went to war against Iraq.

Most of that would never be recovered, it said.

While not entering that dispute, the audit office makes clear that thanks to the generosity of the Gulf allies, the British taxpayer will pay for the lost exports to Iraq than the cost of sending British forces to the Gulf.

Its report suggests the final cost to Britain of the military effort will, once stores are replenished, be £615 million (\$932 million). Though the cost of the war to Britain was £2.43 billion (\$3.68 billion), Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and others paid £2.05 billion (\$3.11 billion).

While generally satisfied that defence spending was kept under control in "Desert Storm," the audit office said Britain could learn from the American forces who had accounts close to the battlefield.

## Iran postpones currency reform

NICOSIA (R) — Iran, concerned about a politically risky price shock, has decided to slow down

currency reform that would amount to a steep devaluation of the rial.

Speaking on Iranian television, President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said unification of the rial's three official exchange rates would not be incorporated in the budget for the next Iranian year starting March 21.

The head of the Majlis (Parliament) Planning and Budget Commission, Qorbanali Dorri Najafabadi, was quoted Monday as saying unification was now seen to be attainable in three years.

Eliminating the rial's three-rate system is a main goal of Mr. Rafsanjani's economic reforms but strong opposition was voiced in the Majlis and press after some officials said in October that the transition could be built into next year's budget.

"The result of numerous meetings of the cabinet, the Supreme Economic Council and Majlis was the decision to separate the path of exchange rate unification from reforms aimed at balancing the economy," Mr. Rafsanjani said.

"We do not want to give the economy a sudden shock. Our reform policy has been gradual from the beginning," he said.

Mr. Dorri Najafabadi, quoted by Resalat newspaper, told a meeting in a Tehran Mosque that unifying the exchange rate was a necessary long-term goal to stabilize the economy, improve the trade balance and create a sound pricing mechanism.

"But unification subjects the country to a huge shock which, if not coupled with correct planning and management, would have a host of political and social repercussions through increasing the pressure on people with low or fixed incomes," he said.

He said the main effort now was to rationalise the annual government budget. "If this is done properly, the twin policies of unifying the exchange rate and balancing the economy can be achieved in three years' time," he added.

Mr. Dorri Najafabadi said the coming year's budget would set 650 billion rials for subsidies to help low-income people and "basic food, medicine and defence expenditures" would be based on the official rate of 67.60 rials per dollar.

Mr. Rafsanjani said the government aimed only to eliminate "unnecessary subsidies" and would supply all the rials needed to prevent a price rise.

## Kuwaiti central bank approves merger of two banks

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's central bank has approved in principle a merger between two specialist banks in which the state has a large stake — Industrial Bank of Kuwait and Kuwait Real Estate Bank.

If it goes ahead, it will be the first success in a campaign to reduce the number of banks in the emirate.

The governor of the central bank, Sheikh Ali Abdul Aziz Al Sabah, said in a statement that the approval was based on a request from the two banks and on a study by their managements.

But sources close to Kuwait Real Estate Bank said the merger was purely the idea of the central bank, which last year repeatedly urged Kuwaiti banks to pool their resources.

"I am not aware of any request to the central bank...all there is the statement of the governor," one source said.

"Merging is merely the wish of the central bank and is not for reasons connected with the position of the Real Estate Bank...which is better than good," said another source.

A central bank official declined to go beyond the governor's statement. Officials at both the other banks were not available to comment.

In the two-year period 1990-91 the Real Estate Bank, which began in 1973 essentially as a building society, made a net profit of 17.266 million dinars (\$60 million) before deducting extraordinary items costing 27.863 million (\$93 million).

Officials said the state's share in the bank was substantial but they could not give a figure.

The Industrial Bank, in which the state has a stake of over 43 per cent, made a net profit of 2.217 million dinars (\$7.4 million) in the same period, after extraordinary deductions.

The bank specialises in long-term loans for industrial and agricultural projects.

The joint assets of the two banks at the end of 1991 amounted to 731 million dinars (\$2.44 billion).

The central bank governor said last year that banks would have to merge for their own good. Government support was conditional on them merging, he added.

The central bank has supported the banks for years by providing cheap funds. This year it has also given them long-term bonds in exchange for their bad loans to customers.

Bankers say bank personnel are reluctant to merge because they fear job losses.

## Egypt, IMF extend reforms deadline until March

CAIRO (R) — Egypt and the IMF have agreed to extend the deadline of an economic reform programme by three months to give Cairo more time to meet public deficit and privatisation targets, Western economists have said.

The delay will give Egypt a chance to comply with International Monetary Fund (IMF) requirements for a stand-by facility which had been due last week.

Egypt must meet the targets to qualify for the first stage of a complex reform package carrying more than \$10 billion of debt forgiveness from Western donors.

Al Ahram newspaper reported Wednesday that Egyptian negotiators and IMF officials in Washington agreed Tuesday to extend a \$372 million stand-by facility, which was due to run out Nov. 28, until March 1.

The two sides have been negotiating since it became clear two months ago Egypt would not meet performance criteria set by the IMF.

IMF officials have been unhappy at delays in reforming the public sector, a key part of launching a full market economy in Egypt.

They said a budget deficit target had to be reviewed downwards because it factored in restructuring costs for reforms which had not taken place.

Egypt could still fail to meet

the extended deadline which would risk derailing the reform process.

"It's just a holding mechanism, frankly they need to do something quick...nothing's changed," one Western economist said.

Diplomats from Western donor countries said the IMF, not Egypt, had initiated the stand-by extension to avoid being forced into an unfavourable review.

Egyptian officials said the delay arose from a technical disagreement over how to calculate reform targets.

They also said performance was affected by the Oct. 12 earthquake in Cairo which killed hundreds of people and made thousands homeless.

"Always performance criteria are hedged regarding proper calculations...there are all sorts of technical issues and it is these which the delegation went to Washington to clarify," one senior official said.

Newspapers Wednesday reported price increases of up to 100 per cent in some cases on luxury brands of bread as part of gradual government subsidy cuts on basic foodstuffs.

Under a complex web of agreements Egypt signed last year with the IMF, the World Bank and Western donors, the first phase of reforms led by the stand-by will be succeeded by a second stage to last 18 months or longer.

## EC, U.S. sign farm trade deal

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) and the United States, formally stepping back from the brink of a trade war, signed two documents Friday dealing for the first time their crucial agreement on oilseeds and farm trade.

A U.S. diplomat said Washington was formally removing the threat of massive sanctions on EC food and drink exports which had been due to come into effect Friday if no agreement was reached to unblock six years of worldwide GATT free-trade talks.

"What we do will be to make sure that the (sanctions package) does not go into effect," the diplomat said.

The United States had been set to impose duties of 200 per cent on \$300 million worth of EC exports — largely French wines — unless a row over European oilseeds and farm subsidies was settled in time.

The European Commission, the EC's executive which represents the 12-nation bloc in international trade negotiations, said it had been certain since the two

sides struck an outline deal last month that the sanctions would not come into effect.

"We've been working constantly under the assumption that the threat of a trade war was over," a Commission spokesman said.

The U.S. diplomat said that following two days of talks in Brussels between chief U.S. technical farm negotiator Joe O'Mara and his EC counterpart Guy Legras this week, two documents had been signed Friday morning.

The nature of the two papers — which were not released — was unclear, but they were likely to be described as memoranda of understanding or letters.

The two papers embody the political agreement reached by top EC and U.S. officials on Nov. 20 in the telephone negotiations after two days of face-to-face meetings in Washington.

France, the EC's top farm producer and exporter, has accused the Commission of giving up too much in the negotiations and criticises the deal as going beyond cuts in EC farm subsidies already agreed by the 12 states in May.

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**SATURDAY 19th:** Twelfth Night  
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